

The Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago) has published a Flora of Santa Catalina Island (Bot. Ser. vol. 5, pp. 1-413, pls. 1-14,—1923). The authors are C. F. Millspaugh and L. W. Nuttall. It is a considerable output in a short time by Dr. Millspaugh who visited California but once and then only for a few months. He had, however, the zealous aid of Mr. Nuttall whose field work on the island adds valuable facts to practically every page, especially in the way of citation of specimens, an excellent feature but too often neglected by authors. Apparently it was made a principle to adopt every genus segregate possible and of course every species segregate. The work includes Cryptogams as well as Spermatophytes. It is a little odd, even in a linear sequence, to see Compositae succeeded by Polypodiaceae.—W. L. JEPSON.

A new edition of Holman and Robbins' Textbook of Botany was published in 1927. The authors are both of the University of California. As a general text it has come into very wide use by institutions of collegiate rank throughout the world. (John Wiley & Son, New York. \$4.00).

#### A MONOGRAPH OF THE GENUS MIMULUS.

The genus *Mimulus*, including the large number of monkey-flowers so familiar to the traveler everywhere in California, has been monographed by Dr. A. L. Grant. The monograph represents, obviously, a great amount of competent and painstaking labor. The descriptions are full without being prolix, localities and specimens are quoted at length, and the keys are carefully worked out, though in the key to the sections of the genus the expression "lower teeth of the mature capsule" is plainly impossible. One hundred and fourteen species, chiefly of the New World, are recognized. A considerable number of new species are published, not a few of them from California.

Under our varying conditions of soil, moisture, altitude and forest shade many *Mimulus* species in California are, in certain situations, prone to the development of exiguous states, in others to extreme dwarfing. Some of the new species listed in this monograph are, therefore, very likely edaphic variants of species already more or less familiar; one or two others seem to represent stages of juvenilism or maturity of species hitherto described. It is to be regretted that in this genus, which offers such unusual opportunity for instructive and significant drawings, the text could not have been illustrated quite fully. The "Monograph of the Genus *Mimulus*" can be purchased by addressing the Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden at St. Louis. (Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden, vol. 9, pp. 99-384, plates 3 to 10,—1924).—W. L. JEPSON.